

Summarising the evidence

# EXPLORING WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT DRIVERS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, FAMILY VIOLENCE AND OTHER FORMS OF GENDERED VIOLENCE

Project overview



Australian Government

Australian Institute of  
Family Studies



# Introduction

*Summarising the evidence: exploring what we know about drivers of violence against women, family violence and other forms of gendered violence* starts from the position that frameworks and actions used to prevent men's violence against women are also effective in helping prevent other forms of family and gendered violence. However, more work is needed to understand the ways that other forms of oppression and inequality such as racism, colonialism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism and ageism work with and alongside the gendered drivers of men's violence against women. Specifically:

- how might this help us to improve approaches to preventing different forms of interpersonal violence and the ways they are experienced by different cohorts in the community?
- to what extent might addressing the gendered drivers of violence against women help to also prevent other forms of family and gendered violence?

Respect Victoria commissioned evidence reviews to help understand what we know – and don't know – about the prevalence, nature, drivers, and risk factors of different forms of violence against women, family and gendered violence. We did this to help explore:

- how addressing the gendered drivers of violence against women may help prevent other forms of family and gendered violence
- where further work is needed to identify distinct drivers and reinforcing factors for these other forms of violence
- what the opportunities might be to build on existing work to strengthen the prevention evidence, policy and practice.

This suite of resources includes 8 research summaries, each focused on a particular form of violence against women or family violence:

- adolescent violence in the home
- child maltreatment
- elder abuse
- men's intimate partner violence against women
- non-partner sexual assault against women
- online violence and harassment perpetrated against women
- sexual harassment in the workplace
- women's intimate partner violence against men

Each one of the research summaries looks at definitions, nature, prevalence, and dynamics of its respective form of violence. The relevance of the gendered drivers to prevention of men's intimate partner violence against women and non-partner sexual assault against women are discussed at the end of this project overview. Six of the summaries (adolescent violence in the home, child maltreatment, elder abuse, online violence and harassment perpetrated against women, sexual harassment in the workplace, and women's intimate partner violence against men) are accompanied by context briefs. These further explore the extent to which addressing the gendered drivers of men's violence against women might help to prevent each of these specific forms of violence.

Read together, the research summaries and the context briefs indicate that continued efforts to address the gendered drivers of men's violence against women are very likely to have positive outcomes on addressing risk of these forms of family and gendered violence.

# Background

Family violence, violence against women and other forms of gendered violence are endemic social problems. Public health approaches to primary prevention start from the premise that these forms of violence are preventable if we address the underlying social norms and structures that drive and influence violence occurring in the first place.<sup>1,2</sup> This has been well-evidenced in the context of preventing violence against women.<sup>4,5</sup>

Anyone can be affected by or perpetrate family and gendered violence. Collectively as a percentage of the population, we know that women – trans and cisgender women, women of different sexual orientations, of different ages, women with disability or without, and women of different class, ethnic and religious backgrounds – are most likely to be victimised by violence. We know that this violence is more likely to be perpetrated by cisgender men.<sup>6-8</sup> Such violence might be perpetrated by a family member, intimate partner or ex-partner; women are also significantly more likely to be sexually assaulted or harassed in the workplace, online or in public places.<sup>6,10-15</sup>

Gender is a cross-cutting social structure that has a profound influence on expressions of power, inequality and violence. The widespread prevalence of violence perpetrated by men against women has meant that this form of gendered violence has been the focus of more research, practice and policy than most other forms of family and gendered violence. As a result, frameworks to prevent men's violence against women are the most well-established and widely used in primary prevention of family violence generally. *Change the story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women in Australia*<sup>4</sup> defines a common approach to preventing violence against women by addressing the underlying social conditions that produce – and that excuse, justify or promote – violence against women. First published in 2015 and revised and updated in 2021, it draws on a comprehensive review of Australian and international literature to define the gendered drivers and reinforcing factors that most consistently predict violence against women, as well as the essential and supporting actions required to address them.<sup>4,16</sup>

## THE GENDERED DRIVERS AND REINFORCING FACTORS OF MEN'S VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

*Change the story* identifies four gendered drivers of men's violence against women:

- the condoning of violence against women
- men's control of decision making and limits to women's independence in public and private life
- rigid gender stereotyping and dominant forms of masculinity
- male peer relations and cultures of masculinity that emphasise aggression, dominance and control.

These are matched with actions to help to prevent violence against women through addressing the drivers, challenging the social contexts that allow violence to occur, and that help to address reinforcing factors that make violence more likely to occur (explained in more detail below). The essential actions to address the gendered drivers are:

- challenge condoning of violence against women
- promote women's independence and decision-making in public life and relationships
- build new social norms that foster personal identities not constrained by rigid gender stereotypes
- support men and boys to develop healthy masculinities and positive, supportive male peer relationships.

Understanding these drivers – and importantly, the actions to prevent them – are an important foundation for primary prevention efforts. This work helps us to understand the dynamics that allow violence to occur, including how power and control are used and abused.

Alongside the gendered drivers, *Change the story* also identifies further factors that can serve to reinforce violence against women. These do not predict violence against women on their own, but may influence the likelihood, prevalence or dynamics in different settings and contexts:

- condoning of violence in general
- experience of, and exposure to, violence (particularly during childhood)
- factors that weaken prosocial behaviour (e.g. disasters and crises; settings where there is heavy alcohol consumption)
- resistance and backlash to prevention and gender equality efforts.

Awareness of these drivers and efforts to address them has underpinned and directed current Australian national and state frameworks to prevent family violence and other forms of gendered violence, including the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and their Children 2022-2032.<sup>17</sup>

Primary prevention frameworks and practice are grounded in decades of research and evaluative evidence. These ways of thinking about and implementing interventions to prevent violence rely on robust data about the prevalence, nature, drivers and reinforcing factors of its different forms. Understanding

these helps us to design effective actions to stop violence before it starts. We know, however, that there is more to be understood to make our collective work even more impactful.

*Change the story's* articulation of the gendered drivers of violence against women, and the importance of intersectional approaches to addressing them, is supported by a range of other frameworks and evidence guides focussed on different cohorts in our communities. These include:

- *Changing the picture: a national resource to support the prevention of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their children* which looks at how the gendered drivers play out as they intersect with colonialism for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women<sup>18</sup>
- *Changing the landscape: A national resource to prevent violence against women and girls with disabilities* which looks at how violence against women with disability is shaped by the intersection of ableism and the gendered drivers<sup>3</sup>
- *Pride in prevention* which looks at the role of heteronormativity and cisnormativity alongside rigid gender roles in driving violence against LGBTIQ+ persons<sup>9</sup>
- *Intersectionality Matters: A guide to engaging immigrant and refugee communities to prevent violence against women* which considers how intersections between the gendered drivers and other forms of structural oppression can be addressed to prevent violence against women who are from immigrant and refugee communities.<sup>19</sup>

These frameworks have deepened collective understanding of the actions required to address gendered and family violence. They identify how these cohort-specific drivers overlap with those set out in *Change the story*, and highlight that intersectional approaches and coalitions are critical to achieving a whole-of-population approach to violence prevention.

Innovation and collective effort created the foundation from which current frameworks to address violence against women continue to evolve. Continued space for innovative practice is crucial to expanding our collective prevention efforts.<sup>9,20</sup> Such an approach affords us the opportunity to gather and share lessons in new, promising practice, and centres community-led innovation that builds upon proven approaches to primary prevention. Victorian and national family violence policy has seen increasing recognition and focus on prevention of other forms of violence in recent years, such as elder abuse<sup>21</sup> and adolescent violence in the home.<sup>22</sup> These are positive shifts, but we need more information to support effective and ethically designed interventions. To increase the likelihood of success for approaches to prevention of different forms of family violence, we need better shared understanding about:

- how and why different forms of family and gendered violence occur
- the various ways that causes, risk factors and normative drivers are conceptualised and understood
- the known gaps in data and other evidence that we need to better tailor actions for prevention.

*Summarising the evidence* contributes to these ongoing efforts. These resources explore what we know about how existing approaches to addressing the gendered drivers of men's violence against women can make significant impacts in prevention of a range of forms of family and gendered violence, and where further research and innovation are needed.

# Approach

Respect Victoria engaged the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) to conduct or commission evidence reviews on various forms of violence against women, and other forms of family and gendered violence. Research teams were asked to investigate each topic using a rapid review methodology based on Cochrane Rapid Review Guidelines.<sup>23</sup> Reports from the evidence reviews were reviewed by academics with relevant expertise in each topic and experienced practitioners. Data gaps were identified by researchers across each of the reviews. (A table of review topics and research teams can be found in the **Appendix**).

Ultimately, 8 of the evidence review topics were selected to be translated into review summaries, with the aim of exploring the extent to which addressing the gendered drivers of men's violence against women can inform prevention of those specific forms of violence. The same research teams who authored the evidence reviews developed 7 of the summaries; Respect Victoria developed the summary of research for men's intimate partner violence against women, using the original evidence review findings alongside national evidence frameworks and population-level prevalence data in addition to that captured in the original Cochrane-style review. Further analysis and interpretation of findings in the reviews was also conducted by Respect Victoria, with particular focus on risk factors, determinants, causes, the influence of intersecting sources of structural discrimination and correlated factors. This was an iterative process in collaboration with AIFS and the authors of each evidence review. Analysis included mapping findings against key concepts used in *Change the story*.

## CHOICE OF SUMMARIES INCLUDED WITH THESE RESOURCES

Fourteen evidence review reports were commissioned as part of this project. All produced valuable findings that will continue to inform the work of Respect Victoria in preventing family violence and violence against women. However, 5 evidence reviews were not translated directly into research summaries as part of the *Summarising the evidence* project:

### **Intimate partner violence perpetrated by men against women**

This topic is one of the most well-researched forms of family and gendered violence; the volume of literature available is immense. As such, Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) needed to create robust criteria for inclusion and exclusion of resources in order to conduct a rapid evidence review within the time and resourcing constraints of this project. This meant that some key sources of data, including prevalence data from the *Personal Safety Survey*, were excluded. Respect Victoria subsequently developed a summary from a desk review of prevalence data and other research, which draws upon findings from the ANROWS rapid evidence review report.

### **Female genital mutilation/cutting, forced marriage and dowry abuse**

This review is highly informative and provides critical insight into these types of abuse perpetrated against many women and girls in the Victorian community. Organisations led by and working with culturally and linguistically marginalised populations continue to do important work in building understanding about these issues and promising prevention practice. Respect Victoria acknowledges this work and the fact that considerable care must be taken in discussion of types of family and gendered violence that particularly effect minoritised communities. In light of this, a research summary was not developed for this review as Respect Victoria decided that this format risked not providing sufficient nuance to ensure audience understanding of relevant sensitivities. Further, consideration of policy and practice implications should be considered in collaboration with community-led organisations. Respect Victoria will use the evidence review findings to inform how we implement key priorities under our [2023-28 Strategic Plan](#).

### **Violence perpetrated against women with disability**

The researchers who were approached to undertake a review focused on violence against people with disability were not available to take on the work within the timeframe requested by Respect Victoria and AIFS. Respect Victoria instead subsequently commissioned a comprehensive desk review of available literature pertaining to violence against women with disability; this narrowed scope also resulted from project resourcing and time constraints. Data from this review has been integrated across all other *Summarising the evidence* resources, alongside findings from recent state and national investigations, policy efforts and community-led research. Given the recent development of *Changing the landscape* by Our Watch and Women with Disabilities Victoria,<sup>3</sup> Respect Victoria refer readers to that research and evidence-informed framework across all publications from *Summarising the evidence*.

## **Intimate partner violence perpetrated against LGBTIQ+ people, and other forms of family violence perpetrated against LGBTIQ+ people**

These 2 evidence reviews usefully demonstrate the limited available research pertaining to LGBTIQ+ experiences of intimate partner and other forms of family violence, and provide valuable insight into how risk factors and perpetration are variously conceptualised. Given recent publication of *Pride in Prevention* by Rainbow Health Australia,<sup>9</sup> Respect Victoria decided to refer readers to that research and evidence-informed framework rather than replicate findings as a unique research summary and context brief here. Data from the evidence review reports has been integrated across various other *Summarising the evidence* resources.

Respect Victoria also commissioned and collated additional research to ensure that other relevant and available data was comprehensively included in the summaries. This included drawing upon findings from evidence reviews that were not developed into discrete summaries, which ensured that each topic area fully reflected the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women,<sup>24</sup> LGBTIQ+ people, women from migrant and refugee communities and multicultural backgrounds, women from various socioeconomic backgrounds, women of all ages, and women with disability. Findings from this additional research were incorporated into summaries with permission from the original review authors. All final summaries were then reviewed and endorsed by the original authors to confirm they remain accurate representations of their research.

AIFS with support from Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS), led a process to synthesise the key findings across these summaries, including the common factors and characteristics in the violence types and identifying key knowledge gaps emerging from analyses in each research summary. Respect Victoria drew upon this work, other policy and practice literature, research and census findings published after the research summaries were finalised, to author context briefs that unpack what we found about the likely benefits of addressing the gendered drivers.

## **Limitations**

*Summarising the evidence* provides point-in-time resources that help to understand what available research, survey and practice literature can tell us about the role addressing the gendered drivers of violence against women plays in preventing other forms of family and gendered violence. It also indicates areas where further work is necessary to identify distinct drivers and reinforcing factors for these other forms of violence.

The study has several limitations. First, resourcing constraints meant that only a small number of reviews were able to be commissioned. Fewer still were able to be converted into research summaries for publication within this suite of resources. As a consequence, *Summarising the evidence*, while valuable, remains a non-exhaustive exploration of how far the gendered drivers take us in primary prevention of all forms of family and gendered violence across the community. Gaps and opportunities for future efforts to address them are considered across all summaries and are also detailed in the 'future directions' section



of each context brief. The Cochrane-style approach used in this project means that reports from population-level surveys, community-led research and practice knowledge was not able to be included in all evidence reviews. Such resources have been included as much as possible in the briefs that accompany the evidence review summaries. However, increased consultation with organisations that are led by and act for members of communities most effected by intersecting sources of structural discrimination must be prioritised in continued efforts to develop evidence about prevention of different forms of family and gendered violence.

Second, definitions of ‘forms’ of family and gendered violence vary across literature and practice. Forms can be framed in terms of the relational context in which violence occurs (e.g. family of origin violence); the gendered dynamics between perpetrator and victim-survivor (e.g. men’s intimate partner violence against women); the cohort of the community affected by violence (e.g. elder abuse or LGBTIQ+ family violence); the setting or context in which violence happens (e.g. sexual harassment in the workplace); or the type of violence perpetrated (e.g. dowry-related abuse). Each of these frames is deliberately broad and therefore many of them overlap. For example, elder abuse includes but is not limited to men’s intimate partner violence against women, disability-related abuse, and abuse against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons.

To try and canvass a broad cross-section of research on violence against women, family violence and other gendered violence as part of *Summarising the evidence*, Respect Victoria commissioned evidence reviews using several of these frames. This meant significant divergence between different research teams’ approaches to their rapid evidence reviews. These inconsistencies of approach were exacerbated by other factors including:

- varying availability of data and resources across topics
- different disciplinary and theoretical approaches applied by research teams
- uneven development of shared, conceptual and even definitional frameworks across research and practice literature.

Respect Victoria is grateful to AIFS and evidence review authors for their efforts to help identify, understand and navigate these differences. While challenging, mapping these issues provides useful insight into what might be considered in continued work to better understand common approaches to primary prevention of family and gendered violence.

## What is in these resources

*Summarising the evidence* includes 8 evidence review summaries, each focused on a form of violence against women or family violence:

- adolescent violence in the home
- child maltreatment
- elder abuse
- men’s intimate partner violence against women
- non-partner sexual assault against women
- online violence and harassment perpetrated against women
- sexual harassment in the workplace
- women’s intimate partner violence against men

The evidence review summaries look at definition, nature, prevalence, and dynamics of each form of violence.

Six of these summaries are accompanied by context briefs (see below) that explore what we know about how addressing the gendered drivers of men's violence against women can help us to prevent each of these forms of violence.

Links to these resources, along with a bibliography containing all resources used in the 8 rapid evidence reviews used to create the research summaries can be found on the [project page](#).

## **Men's intimate partner violence against women and men's non-partner sexual assault of women**

Much of the evidence used to inform *Change the story* relates to men's intimate partner violence against women and men's non-partner sexual assault of women.<sup>4</sup> Given that the relevance of addressing the gendered drivers in preventing these forms of violence are well-established and documented in that framework, we have not prepared additional context briefs on these topics.

The research summaries on these topics featured within *Summarising the evidence* usefully provide updated data and resources and validate the findings of *Change the story*. They find that these forms of violence:

- share common behaviours including physical, sexual, and psychological abuse, violence and harassment
- share a common dynamic in which men are the primary perpetrators and women are the primary victims
- are perpetrated across population groups, with some groups at higher risk of experiencing violence due to other factors, including structural and systemic discrimination
- are underpinned by all four of the gendered drivers associated with men's violence against women
- have common reinforcing factors, including but not limited to:
  - normalising of violence in general
  - past experiences of violence
  - drug and alcohol misuse
  - mental health problems
  - cognitive disability
  - backlash to prevention and gender equality efforts, particularly in online spaces.

As such, interventions which address the gendered drives of men's violence against women are very likely to prevent these forms of violence from occurring in the first place.

## **Other research summaries**

The remaining 6 research summaries focus on forms of violence where evidence about how and why that violence occurs – and how to prevent it – is less well-established. This includes types of violence against women occurring in unique settings i.e., online and in the workplace.

Respect Victoria has therefore developed context briefs for these summaries, to help understand what we know about prevention of:

- adolescent violence in the home

- child maltreatment
- elder abuse
- online violence and harassment perpetrated against women
- sexual harassment in the workplace
- women's intimate partner violence against men.

These context briefs look at the extent to which addressing the drivers of men's violence against women is also likely to help prevent other forms of violence against women, family and sexual violence, and present considerations for future directions to progress primary prevention efforts.

Resources on each topic can be read and shared as stand-alone resources or together as a suite.

## What does *Summarising the evidence* find?

The research summaries and context briefs show that addressing the gendered drivers of men's violence against women is **likely to help to prevent other forms of family and gendered violence**. However, they also show that there is more we need to understand about how and why some forms of violence occur in order to better tailor prevention approaches. Effective primary prevention requires attention to more than just the gender or relationship of the individual who is perpetrating or using violence. For example, women over 65 in Australia are much more likely to experience intimate partner violence or sexual assault than men. However, they are only slightly more likely to be victims of other forms of elder abuse than men over 65.<sup>25,26</sup> Clearly, continued collective efforts to stop intimate partner violence and sexual assault against women before they start through actions to address the gendered drivers and the social contexts that allow these forms of violence to occur are critical. In doing so, there are likely positive flow-on effects for prevention of elder abuse perpetrated against people of all genders.

Noting that most perpetrators of elder abuse are men regardless of the gender of the victim, efforts to address inequitable masculine norms – such as a sense of entitlement to a parent's resources – may help alleviate some risk factors for abuse and neglect of older people.<sup>25</sup> Supporting men to build and foster positive peer relationships may help to mitigate later-in-life isolation that might make them more vulnerable to abuse from a carer or child.<sup>27</sup> Addressing wage inequalities and precarious working conditions in aged care settings may help to improve staff retention and well-being, thus improving care conditions for residents. Such measures would also better ensure financial independence of the 86% of the aged care workforce who are women<sup>28</sup> when they themselves reach retirement age. Each of these preventative approaches offers the potential for substantive impact on reducing risk of several types of elder abuse.<sup>29</sup>

In another example, although child maltreatment affects children of all genders, addressing the gendered drivers offers an important approach for preventing this form of violence. The most common type of child maltreatment is exposure to family violence, which is more often perpetrated by a male adult.<sup>30</sup> Preventing men's violence against women will thus nullify a significant risk factor for child maltreatment.<sup>31</sup> Trans and gender diverse children are more at risk of being targeted for abuse than cisgender children, suggesting that building social norms that are not constrained by rigid gender stereotypes – alongside addressing homophobia and transphobia – is key to reducing risk of child maltreatment for these cohorts.<sup>9,32</sup> Similarly, single mothers are the most commonly victimised group in the context of adolescent violence in the home; this abuse is often encouraged and manipulated by abusive former partners, who are most commonly male.<sup>33,34</sup>

These examples demonstrate the importance of understanding primary prevention as a process of overlapping efforts that work across structures, systems, organisations, communities, relationships, and with individuals' attitudes and behaviours. Further, it shows the ways that unequal gender dynamics and the ways in which they are expressed can negatively impact everyone.

At the same time, the summaries and context briefs clearly show that **there is more to be done to understand how to comprehensively prevent some forms of family and gendered violence across communities**. The 'future directions' section of each brief suggest avenues to improve knowledge about primary prevention of all forms of violence against women, family and sexual violence. Across all topics, we reiterate the importance of building better research and practice knowledge that addresses intersecting forms of structural oppression. We point to the need to interrogate how these oppressions overlap with the gendered drivers of men's violence against women to shape how and why violence occurs. Where men's violence against women is a common precursor for other forms of violence occurring, we highlight the need for improved evaluative evidence about how to better integrate prevention approaches across the family violence continuum and throughout broader social service responses.

We make this contribution alongside those led by prevention practitioners from communities affected by different forms of discrimination. Our hope is that by doing so, we can collectively build more sophisticated efforts to prevent all forms of family and gendered violence.

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# Appendix

The original scope for *Summarising the evidence* included a wider range of topics than have been published as research summaries or context briefs as part of this suite of resources. As discussed in the 'limitations' section, the selection of published summaries does not reflect the relative importance of research topics or the quality of the work prepared by authors. All evidence reviews have been and continue to be extremely valuable in informing the ongoing efforts from Respect Victoria to improve what we know about and how we approach primary prevention of violence against women and other forms of family and gendered violence. Those topics not able to be included as focused research summaries or context briefs are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the table below.

## Evidence review topics

Topic	Author(s)
1 Adolescent family violence in the home	Elena Campbell (Centre for Innovative Justice, RMIT) and Liz Wall (AIFS)
2 Children's experiences of maltreatment and violence in the home	Daryl Higgins and Gabby Hunt (Australian Catholic University)
3 * Dowry exploitation	Manjula Datta O'Connor (University of Melbourne) Sara Singh and Georgia Lyons (University of New South Wales)
4 * Early or forced marriage	Manjula Datta O'Connor (University of Melbourne) Sara Singh and Georgia Lyons (University of New South Wales)
5 * Familial violence perpetrated against an LGBTIQ+ person	Luke Gahan (AIFS)
6 * Female genital mutilation/cutting perpetrated against women and girls	Manjula Datta O'Connor (University of Melbourne) Sara Singh and Georgia Lyons (University of New South Wales)
7 Intimate partner violence perpetrated against men by women	Michael Salter and Delanie Woodlock (University of New South Wales)
8 Intimate partner violence perpetrated against women by men	Elizabeth Watt, Charlotte Bell, Liz Eggins, Lorelei Hine and Brigette Gilbert (ANROWS)
9 * Intimate partner violence perpetrated in LGBTIQ+ relationships	Luke Gahan (AIFS)
10 Non-partner sexual violence	Antonia Quadara (AIFS)
11 Online violence and harassment perpetrated against women	Bridget Harris (Monash Gender and Family Violence Prevention Centre)

12	Sexual harassment occurring in the world of work	Sara Charlesworth (RMIT) and Catherine Deen (University of New South Wales)
13	Violence perpetrated against older people by another family member or carer	Emily Stevens, Rae Kaspiew and Rachel Carson (AIFS)
14	* Violence perpetrated against women with disability	Georgina Sutherland (University of Melbourne), Mel O'Reilly (Women's Health East) and Jade McEwen (AIFS)
	* Supplementary review: Violence against Aboriginal women	Kyllie Cripps



# Further reading

All resources from *Summarising the evidence* can be found on the [project page](#).

## Research summaries

- Adolescent violence in the home (E Campbell & L Wall)
- Child maltreatment: a snapshot summary (D Higgins & G Hunt)
- Intimate partner violence perpetrated against women by men (Respect Victoria)
- Intimate partner violence perpetrated by women against men (M Salter & D Woodlock)
- Online violence and harassment perpetrated against women (B Harris)
- Non partner sexual violence (A Quadara)
- Sexual harassment occurring in the world of work (S Charlesworth & C Deen)
- Violence perpetrated against older people by another family member or carer (E Stevens, R Kaspiw & R Carson)

## Context briefs

- Summarising the evidence: Exploring what we know about drivers of violence against women, family violence and other forms of gendered violence - Project overview
- Summarising the evidence: Adolescent violence in the home
- Summarising the evidence: Child maltreatment
- Summarising the evidence: Elder abuse
- Summarising the evidence: Online harassment and abuse against women
- Summarising the evidence: Women's intimate partner violence against men
- Summarising the evidence: Work-related sexual harassment

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*Summarising the evidence* brings together research from different contributing authors and organisations. The research summaries present analysis by the evidence review authors and may not fully reflect the views of Respect Victoria or the Australian Institute of Family Studies. The project overview and accompanying topic briefs have been wholly authored by Respect Victoria.



## Acknowledgement of Country

Respect Victoria acknowledges Aboriginal peoples throughout Victoria as the First Peoples and Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waterways on which we rely. We proudly acknowledge the Aboriginal communities throughout Victoria and their ongoing strength in practising the world's oldest living culture.

We acknowledge the significant and ongoing impacts of colonisation and commit to working alongside Aboriginal communities to effect change. We recognise the ongoing leadership role of Aboriginal communities in addressing and preventing family violence and violence against women, and will continue to work in collaboration with First Peoples to eliminate these forms of violence from all communities.

## Victim survivor acknowledgement

Respect Victoria acknowledges the significant impact of family violence and violence against women on individuals, families and communities, and the strength and resilience of the children, young people and adults who have, and are still, experiencing this violence. We pay our respects to those who did not survive, and to their loved ones.



Respect Victoria is the state's dedicated organisation for the prevention of family violence and violence against women. Our vision is a Victorian community where all people are safe, equal and respected, and live free from family violence and violence against women.

To achieve our vision, we lead and support evidence-informed primary prevention and act as a catalyst for transformational social change. Primary prevention aims to stop violence from occurring in the first place, by changing the culture that drives it. We drive coordination and effectiveness of the prevention system. We build and promote primary prevention knowledge and evidence. We keep prevention on the public and policy agenda. We guide prevention wherever Victorians live, work, learn and play. We raise awareness that violence against women is preventable and influence community conversations to fuel social change.

We are an independent voice, with functions, powers and duties enshrined in legislation.